

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

VOL. IV. { Abstract }
 { No. 41. }

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., October 11, 1889.

Abstract of Domestic and Foreign Sanitary Reports received during the week ended October 11, 1889, published in accordance with section 4, Act of Congress, approved April 29, 1878.

UNITED STATES.

Special Reports.

FLORIDA—*Key West.*—*Yellow fever.*—Information has been received that certain cases of fever of a suspicious character have made their appearance at Key West. Dr. J. Y. Porter, acting for the State board of health, is now investigating the matter for the board.

[Telegram.]

Key West, October 9, 1889. Dr. Porter reports to Dr. Daniel, president State board of health, that upon investigation made to-day he finds several cases of yellow fever at Key West. No need of apprehension. Has taken all precautions on acclimation certificates.

J. L. POSEY, M. D.

JACKSONVILLE, *October 5, 1889.*

SIR: I inclose copy of mortuary report* of the city health officer of Jacksonville for the month of September. During the past two weeks I have been requested by Dr. Daniel to visit 2 cases reported to him as suspicious. They were both colored females, one a child of ten years the other an adult. The negro girl died after a week's illness; I saw her with City Health Officer Dr. Charles Burroughs, and after a close investigation the diagnosis of remittent malarial fever (congestive type) was fully established by symptoms and history of the case. The adult negress I visited was a patient of Dr. Matthews, and proved to be also a remittent malarial fever, and at the time of my visit was entirely free from fever and has since recovered. Both of these persons were here during the epidemic and had yellow fever. There have been no other cases reported to the board, and the city has enjoyed an exceptional immunity so far from sporadic cases, and the general sanitary condition is good. I have been in a position to know promptly of the occurrence of any sickness of a suspicious character, and availed myself of

* An extract from the report is published in the reports of cities, etc.

every opportunity to investigate rumors and reports coming from citizens, and through the police and sanitary force, as well as information received by the State board.

Very truly yours,

J. L. POSEY, M. D.,
Sanitary Inspector, M. H. S.

Surgeon-General JNO. B. HAMILTON,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, Washington, D. C.

[From *Der Deutsche Correspondent*, Baltimore, Md., October 1, 1889.—Translation.]

ILLINOIS—*Chicago*.—*Small-pox*.—Chicago, September 30. Dr. F. D. Porter, of the Lake View board of health, was informed of the breaking out of a small-pox epidemic which threatens to assume a dangerous character. The first patient who has been attacked by the disease is a 15-year-old boy by the name of J. Welter, the son of well-to-do parents. The family has just returned from a visit abroad to their native place of Luxemburg, via Havre. On their landing from the steamer *La Gascogne* in the port of New York, all members of the family passed the quarantine untroubled. But while on the train going West the disease broke out in young Welter. His parents at first supposed him to be afflicted with measles, but as his fever continued increasing very strongly, they became anxious about him.

On their arrival in this city the boy was immediately taken home and a physician summoned, who, after two days, declared it to be a case of undoubted black small-pox. He reported this to Dr. Porter, who directly had all children living in the neighborhood vaccinated. Yesterday all school children living more distant from the location of the disease were also vaccinated. In spite of this the eruption of a small-pox epidemic is to be feared, for the boy, during the long railroad journey, came in contact with hundreds of persons, and during the first two days that he was here, when the dangerous character of his disease was not yet recognized, many of his school-mates visited him and shook hands with him.

LOUISIANA—*New Orleans*.—*Yellow fever*.—The following telegram was received too late for publication in Abstract No. 40:

OCTOBER 3, 1889.

A case of yellow fever died here this morning. Was brought from Livingston, Guatemala, and passed inspection at quarantine by appearing on deck at muster. Full particulars by mail.

LUCIEN F. SALOMON, M. D.

Also, the following letter and report relative to the above:

BOARD OF HEALTH STATE OF LOUISIANA,

New Orleans, October 3, 1889.

DEAR SIR: As telegraphed you to-day, a man died in this city of yellow fever. The particulars of the case are as follows: Mr. E. De Villa, United States consular agent for the United States of Colombia, had been at Guatemala City, and from there went overland to Livingston, Guatemala, where he took passage on the steam-ship *City of Dallas* for New Orleans on the 26th of September. The second day out he was taken with a chill followed by fever, but did not keep to his berth

after the chill. He continued to feel ill during the voyage, but before arrival of the vessel at the Mississippi quarantine he dressed himself and went on deck, thus passing inspection by the quarantine officer. The master of the vessel made affidavit that there had been no one sick during the voyage. The vessel had a clean bill of health, and there being to our positive knowledge no yellow fever at Livingston, the vessel, after being disinfected, was allowed to proceed to New Orleans, where she arrived at 8 p. m., October 1.

The man was seen by Dr. J. J. Castellanos, October 2, had had fever, nausea, hiccough, pain in the region of the stomach, and bilious vomiting. When seen again at night he was vomiting black vomit, followed by black hemorrhagic stools. This morning (October 3) black vomit still persistent, urinary suppression, hiccough, and uræmic convulsions.

Dr. Castellanos immediately reported above facts to this office, and a commission of experts, composed of Drs. J. P. Davidson, C. J. Bickham, and George Howe, was summoned and requested to see the case and pass upon it.

In the mean time the man had died (11.35 a. m.), and at 2 p. m. the above-named physicians, with Dr. Castellanos and Dr. R. Matas, who had been called in consultation, proceeded to the house, No. 149 Decatur street, and after obtaining a history of the case and holding an autopsy, unanimously declared the case to be yellow fever.

Inclosed is a copy of the commission's report.

Every precaution has been taken to prevent spread of the disease. The premises have been isolated and thoroughly disinfected, and there is no danger to be apprehended.

The body was properly cared for and interred without delay.

Should any further developments occur in connection with the case you will be immediately notified. In the mean time there is no cause for alarm.

Yours respectfully,

LUCIEN F. SALOMON, M. D.,
Secretary Board of Health State of Louisiana.

Dr. JOHN B. HAMILTON,
Surgeon-General, U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NEW ORLEANS, *October 3, 1889.*

The undersigned members of the committee of experts on yellow fever appointed by the Louisiana State board of health, beg leave to report that at the request of the acting president of the board, Dr. S. D. Kennedy, made an examination of the body of D. DeVilla, exposed at 149 Decatur street. The deceased presented the form of a stout man in full flesh, apparently about thirty-five years of age. The face was more or less livid, skin generally icterosed, the adnata injected and yellow, pupils dilated, gums firm but turgid. They proceeded to make an autopsy, and found the following appearances: There was a great thickness of adipose tissue along the line of incisions in opening the cavity of the abdomen. Removing the stomach they found it to contain about 6 ounces of fluid which, on being poured into a vessel, presented all the characteristics of black vomit, the coffee-ground sediment pecu-

liar to it being well defined. The mucous membrane showed ecchymosed spots, chiefly at the cardiac extremity and along the larger curvature, and was readily scraped off at those points. The liver was firm, rather smaller than usual, of a saddle-leather color, and showing but little engorgement on being cut. The gall-bladder was quite empty. The spleen was small, rather paler than common, and quite firm upon pressure. The kidneys were enlarged, and engorged with blood. The bladder yielded somewhere about an ounce of turbid urine, which on being boiled and treated with nitric acid, contained from 25 to 30 per cent. of albumen. The deceased died with an uremic convulsion.

These pathological conditions satisfy us in deciding that death ensued from yellow fever.

J. P. DAVIDSON, M. D.,
Chairman of Committee.
 C. J. BICKHAM, M. D.
 GEORGE HOWE, M. D.

Reports of States, and Yearly and Monthly Reports of Cities.

FLORIDA—*Jacksonville*.—Month of September, 1889. Population, 30,000. Total deaths, 56, including enteric fever, 5; and whooping-cough, 2.

ILLINOIS—*Galesburg*.—Month of September, 1889. Population, 17,000. Total deaths, 9, including scarlet fever, 1; and enteric fever, 1.

IOWA—*Keokuk*.—Month of August, 1889. Population, 16,000. Total deaths, 13, including scarlet fever, 1

Month of September, 1889. Total deaths, 8, including enteric fever, 1.

MICHIGAN.—Four weeks ended September 28, 1889. Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, from 228 observers, indicate that compared with the preceding month typho-malarial fever, whooping-cough, enteric fever, and diphtheria increased, and cholera morbus, erysipelas, and inflammation of the bowels decreased, in prevalence. Diphtheria was reported present during the month at 38 places; scarlet fever at 20 places; enteric fever at 47 places, and measles at 7 places. Reports from all sources show diphtheria present at 13 places more, scarlet fever at 2 places more, and enteric fever at 7 places more than in the preceding month. The following memorandum accompanies the monthly report:

MEMORANDUM ACCOMPANYING MONTHLY BULLETIN OF HEALTH IN MICHIGAN FOR SEPTEMBER, 1889.

The bulletins Health in Michigan, heretofore issued by the secretary of the State board of health, have mentioned the increase or decrease of those diseases in which a difference of 7 or more was shown between the per cents of reports stating the presence of the disease in the

current week or month and in the preceding week or month, or in the corresponding month in previous years.

Hereafter those diseases will be mentioned of which the comparison shows an increase or decrease of 25 per cent. from the preceding week or month, or from the normal, as the case may be.

The new method has the effect of calling attention to changes in the prevalence of diseases, which, like diphtheria and scarlet fever, are important, yet which, are not usually reported by a very large number of observers, and, therefore, under the old plan would not be mentioned.

HENRY B. BAKER,

Secretary.

LANSING, MICH., *October 3, 1889.*

Week ended September 28, 1889. Reports from 53 observers indicate that remittent fever, pneumonia, and enteric fever increased, and that cholera morbus and inflammation of the brain decreased, in area of prevalence. Diphtheria was reported present during the week, and since, at 18 places; scarlet fever at 11 places; enteric fever at 31 places, and measles at 3 places.

MINNESOTA.—The following is an extract from Public Health, the official publication of the State board of health:

DISTRIBUTION AND MORTALITY FROM SPECIFIED DISEASES IN MINNESOTA FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1889, AS REPORTED UP TO SEPTEMBER 20.

[Population estimated 1889, cities over 2,000 inhabitants, 539,000; towns and villages, 1,047,860.]

Total number of deaths, 996, an increase of 58 over last month, 582 males, 414 females; 57 per cent. occurred in cities over 2,000 population, against 68 per cent. last month. Ages, under 1 year, 46 per cent.; 1 to 5 years, 11.5 per cent.; 5 to 15 years, 6 per cent.; 15 to 30 years, 11 per cent.; 30 to 50 years, 9.13 per cent.; 50 to 70 years, 9.8 per cent.; over 70 years, 6 per cent. Of 461 deaths under 1 year old, 54 per cent. were in cities; from 1 to 5 years, 59 per cent. in cities.

Measles.—Five deaths (2 males, 3 females), in 4 localities, 4 counties; 80 per cent. occurred in cities. Ages, 2 under 1 year; one 1 to 2 years; two 5 to 10 years. Mortality and distribution one-half compared with last month.

Scarlatina.—Sixteen deaths (9 males, 7 females), in 8 localities, 7 counties; 31.25 per cent. occurred in cities. Ages, 81.25 per cent. under 5 years; 18.75 per cent. between 5 and 15 years. Mortality greater; but distribution same as last month.

Diphtheria.—Twenty-seven deaths, (12 males, 15 females), in 10 localities, 10 counties; 71 per cent. occurred in cities. Ages, under 5 years, 33 per cent.; between 5 and 15 years, 59 per cent.; an increase in mortality and distribution compared with last month; but about half that of same month last year.

Typhoid fever.—Forty deaths (21 males, 19 females), in 18 localities, 18 counties; 72.5 per cent. occurred in cities. Ages, under 10 years, 7.5 per cent.; between 10 and 20 years, 60 per cent.; between 20 and 40 years, 17 per cent. As expected, approaching fall, mortality and dis-

tribution greatly increased compared with last month; but less than for same month last year.

NEW JERSEY—*Hudson County*.—Month of August, 1889. Population, 282,254. Total deaths, 591, including measles, 1; scarlet fever, 2; diphtheria, 24; whooping-cough, 12, and enteric fever, 12.

PENNSYLVANIA—*Williamsport*.—Month of September, 1889. Population, 35,271. Total deaths, 24, including enteric fever, 3.

TEXAS—*San Antonio*.—Month of September, 1889. Population, 50,000. Total deaths, 70, including diphtheria, 1, and enteric fever, 6.

VIRGINIA—*Petersburg*.—Month of September, 1889. Population, 25,000. Total deaths, 56; none from contagious diseases.

MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated popula- tion.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—										
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Varioloid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping- cough.
New York, N. Y.....	Oct. 5.....	1,583,873	605							14	5	13	2	6
Chicago, Ill.....	Oct. 5.....	1,100,000	356							9	1	26		
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	Oct. 5.....	843,602	296							4		20		4
Baltimore, Md.....	Oct. 5.....	500,343	131							4	1	2		
St. Louis, Mo.....	Oct. 5.....	450,000	135							8	3	9		
San Francisco, Cal.....	Sept. 27.....	330,000	125							3		5		
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Oct. 5.....	325,000	102							1		19		
New Orleans, La.....	Sept. 28.....	254,000	102							12		3		
Washington, D. C.....	Sept. 28.....	250,000								6		7		1
Washington, D. C.....	Oct. 5.....	250,000								6		6		
Detroit, Mich.....	Sept. 28.....	250,000	76							12		4		
Cleveland, Ohio.....	Sept. 7.....	235,000	95							3	1	6		3
Cleveland, Ohio.....	Sept. 14.....	235,000	112							3		5	1	
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	Sept. 30.....	230,000	103							8		6		
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	Oct. 5.....	230,000	84							6	3	8		
Louisville, Ky.....	Oct. 5.....	227,000	49							4				
Minneapolis, Minn.....	Oct. 5.....	200,000	48							5		8		
Kansas City, Mo.....	Oct. 5.....	180,000	30							5		1		
Denver, Colo.....	Oct. 4.....	135,000	77							20	1	1		
Rochester, N. Y.....	Sept. 28.....	130,000	29						1			1		
Providence, R. I.....	Oct. 5.....	127,000	38							2		1		
Indianapolis, Ind.....	Oct. 4.....	124,450	26							1		5		
Richmond, Va.....	Oct. 5.....	100,000	35							1				
Toledo, Ohio.....	Oct. 4.....	89,000	29									4		
Fall River, Mass.....	Oct. 5.....	69,000	47							4				1
Nashville, Tenn.....	Oct. 5.....	65,153	17							2		1		1
Charleston, S. C.....	Oct. 5.....	60,145	36							1				
Lynn, Mass.....	Oct. 5.....	50,000	13											
Manchester, N. H.....	Sept. 25.....	42,000	19							1		2		
Portland, Me.....	Oct. 5.....	42,000	14							1		1		
Galveston, Tex.....	Sept. 27.....	40,000	10											
Binghamton, N. Y.....	Oct. 6.....	30,000	11							1				
Auburn, N. Y.....	Oct. 5.....	26,000	7											1
Haverhill, Mass.....	Oct. 5.....	25,000	8											
Newport, R. I.....	Oct. 3.....	22,000	2											
Newton, Mass.....	Sept. 14.....	21,553	6									1		
Newton, Mass.....	Sept. 21.....	21,553	6							1				
Newton, Mass.....	Oct. 5.....	21,553	4									2		
Rock Island, Ill.....	Sept. 29.....	16,000	4											
Rock Island, Ill.....	Oct. 6.....	16,000	8									5		
Keokuk, Iowa.....	Sept. 28.....	16,000	3											
Keokuk, Iowa.....	Oct. 5.....	16,000	1											

FOREIGN.

(Reports received through the Department of State and other channels.)

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended September 21 corresponded to an annual rate of 17.0 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Brighton, viz, 12.4, and the highest in Preston, viz, 27.5 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 4 deaths in Manchester, 3 in Derby, 3 in Sheffield, 3 in Preston, and 2 in Birmingham; small-pox caused 1 death in Sheffield.

London.—One thousand two hundred and sixty-seven deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 3; scarlet fever, 25; diphtheria, 44; whooping-cough, 26; enteric fever, 11; diarrhœa and dysentery, 73. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 15.2 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 142 deaths. In greater London 1,593 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 14.7 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included diarrhœa, 19; scarlet-fever, 7; whooping-cough, 7, and diphtheria, 7.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended September 21, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 23.9 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Wexford, viz, 8.6, and the highest in Dublin, viz, 28.4 a thousand. In Dublin 193 deaths were registered, including diphtheria, 1; whooping-cough, 1; scarlet fever, 1; enteric fever, 7; diarrhœa, 14, and dysentery, 4.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended September 21 corresponded to an annual rate of 16.4 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Perth, viz, 9.5, and the highest in Paisley, viz, 22.4 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 419, including measles, 5; scarlet fever, 6; diphtheria, 6; whooping-cough, 15; fever, 6, and diarrhœa, 36.

AUSTRIA—*Trieste.*—Dr. J. F. Hartigan, United States consul, writes as follows under date of September 17, 1889 :

* * * No United States vessels come to this port. They are mainly English, and the exports consist mostly of insect flowers and powder, dried prunes, cuttle-fish bones, sardines, beans, sponges, drugs, oils, etc. Compared with former years, the shipment of rags has very greatly diminished. They are gathered mainly at present in the city and surroundings, also from the interior 80 miles, but so far as I know at this time are not subjected to supervision by any local authorities. The shipper, however, is required to certify in the invoice, by the regu-

lations of this office, that they were not collected from infected places ; the same being the case with hides and skins. The city or sanitary physician of Trieste issues a document to this effect over his own seal and signature, and based upon his personal knowledge. * * * The seemingly high mortality here is due mainly to the unusual proportion of illegitimate children among the lower classes, the monthly report of vital statistics showing, out of a total of 86 deaths, 31 of illegitimate children under a year old.

CUBA—*Havana*.—There were 527 deaths during the month of September. Forty-seven of these deaths were caused by yellow fever, 22 by enteric fever, 32 by so-called pernicious fever, 4 by paludal fever, 11 by diphtheria and croup, and 1 by glanders. Eleven of the deaths from yellow fever occurred in the military hospital ; the remaining 36 were among civilians in different parts of the city.

There were 11 deaths from yellow fever during the week ended September 27, 1889.

The following telegram has been received :

Havana.—October 10, 1889. American schooner Robert Ruff sailed for Pascagoula yesterday with one case suspicious fever.

D. M. BURGESS, *Sanitary Inspector, M. H. S.*

The secretary of the State board of health of Mississippi has been notified accordingly.

Cardenas.—October 4, 1889. Good health in town and harbor. Weather dry and warm.

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—							
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.
London.....	Sept. 21.....	5,642,015	1,593					11	32	51	5
Paris.....	Sept. 21.....	2,260,945	935			3		29	12	20	8
Glasgow.....	Sept. 21.....	545,678	175					3	12	4	
Warsaw.....	Sept. 14.....	445,770	248			15			10	8	
Calcutta.....	Aug. 24.....	433,219	243	5						12	
Amsterdam.....	Sept. 21.....	399,051	127					1		1	
Copenhagen.....	Sept. 14.....	307,000	117					3	1	7	
Palermo.....	Sept. 21.....	250,000	58						1		
Belfast.....	Sept. 21.....	229,622	98				1	6		2	
Genoa.....	Sept. 21.....	180,311	64				1			2	
Trieste.....	Sept. 14.....	154,500	82					1		2	
Stuttgart.....	Sept. 21.....	125,510	52							1	
Havre.....	Sept. 21.....	112,074	62			1		2			1
Barmen.....	Sept. 21.....	109,000	37								
Catania.....	Sept. 22.....	108,000	27							2	
Leghorn.....	Sept. 22.....	103,142	46								
Rheims.....	Sept. 21.....	97,903	46					3	1		1
Mayence.....	Sept. 14.....	65,802	20						1	2	
Cadiz.....	Sept. 21.....	57,197	41								
Vera Cruz.....	Sept. 26.....	23,800	31								
Gibraltar.....	Sept. 15.....	23,631	10			1					
Kingston, Can.....	Oct. 4.....	20,000	10								

JOHN B. HAMILTON,

Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.